

  
TO HIS LOVING

BRETHREN WHOME GOD

ones Gloriously gathered in the Church  
of Edinburgh, and now ar disperfed  
for tryall of our Faith. &c.

IOHNE KNOX.



IMPRESSED AT

STRIVILING BE ROBERT  
LEKPREVIK.

ANNO DO. M. D. LXXI.

RECEIVED

ON 11/10/11

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# THE TROVBLS

OF THE IVST SALL SCHORT.

lie come to an end, to the glorie of God, I

and to their Eternall comfort.

**B**ELOVED brethren in the Lord Iesus, pertakers now of his afflictiones, if the inhabilitie of bodie wold suffer, I wold wryte a long letter: But being in that estate, that I may not wryte with my own hand two lines, I must abyde the good leasure of God, & desyre yow to haue me excused, that I haue not sener visited yow into this your dolerous persecution. When I call to mynd the fearful threatninges of God, that haue bene oft tymes thounded out into your cares, and doeeth consider these present dayes, in the middelt of my dolour, I praise my God, that Sathan hath not gotten the full victorie, as he pretended. For this separation, whiche now is made to the greif of many hartes, is yet a seuer document, that the word of God, hath not lost the whole strength in yow: but that God, working thereby, hath pulled yow furth from the middelt of the wicket, least that ye should be with them condampned, who now.

A. 2.



moste manifestlie rebelleth, bothe against God  
and man.

Of one thing I must put yow in mynd, and  
I pray God that ye may frutelessly remember  
it: That the worde of God preached be the  
mouth of man, is not a vane sound and word-  
es spoken without a purpos: but is the sum-  
moning of God him self, forewarning men be-  
fore the Iudgement come. Ye haue hard it  
planelie spoken, that we wolde till Ægypt a-  
gane, in dispyte of Ieremie and all his admo-  
nitiones: whiche threatning for that tyme,  
was not onelie mocked, but also boldlie spo-  
ken against. But whether this day declaireth  
the treuth of that and other threatninges; let  
the verray blynde worlde Iudge. For what  
can be to returne to Ægypt, if to Ioyne handes  
des with Idolaters be not? Yea, to erect an  
Authoritie, (be God Iustlie dampned) with-  
out ordour, bothe against God and man?  
Such men when they were spoken vnto, and  
were planelie admonished of their appearing  
defectio, could not abyde to be called proude  
contempners of God: who now spareth not,  
at euery moment to blaspheme God, and be  
their wicked workes planelie to deny, that  
there is a God that maketh difference betwix  
vice



vice and vertew.

Reioyce therefore, and praise Goddes mercies, who hath called yow from the company of such: and continew constant into that, that God of his mercy hath wrought into yow, to wit, A feare to remaine in the faction of the wicked. Which feare, I pray God may daylie increase into your hartes. I knowe the afflictions that ye shal suffer, are sore and hard to be ganestanded: and therefore be yow feruet in prayer, that ye repent not, that God hath chosen yow to suffer affliction with his Sonne Iesus Christ. Hard it is (I say) to ganestand fleshe & blood, and whatsoeuer is moste precious into this lyfe, onlie in hoipe of that kingdom promised. And yet onlie they, that contineweth to the end shall stand in assurance, before the Lord Iesus, into that general day, when vertew shall ressaue a iust reward, and vice (with the workers of Impietie) shall suffer wraith and vengeance without end. Be not ye sclanderred at the multitude of the that haue ioyned handes with Impietie. For if thay had bene of vs (as Sanct Iohne sayeth) they had remained with vs. But now this their defection doeth plainelie declare, that when they were with vs, they were but as cor



rupted humoures within the body, which be  
hould to be expelled furthe, before the body  
coule conualeice and come to perfection  
gaine. Lament their fall, but follow not the  
trade. For howsoeuer they prosper into the  
attemptat, the end thereof shalbe their de  
struction temporall and eternall, onles speed  
repentance preuene Goddes Iudgemente  
which to wishe is godlie, but to beleue is foo  
lish presumption as oftymes ye haue hard.

Luke not for fynall victorie, before that the  
strength and pryde of fleshe be beaten downe  
neither be ye discouraged, albeit that iniqui  
tie prosper before the worlde.

For the tyme of their felicitie which trou  
bleth yow for the present, shall be short.  
Ioyne not with them therefore, as ye will a  
uoyde plagues present, and condemnation  
eternall. Be faithfull and louing one to a  
nother. Let bitterness and suspicio[n] be farre ou  
of your hartes: and let euerie one watche for  
the preservation of another, without grudge  
ing or murmuring: being assured, that as God  
hath appointed yow to suffer affliction for  
righteousnes sake, so hath he appointed yow  
to possesse an Kingdome: wherein neither Sa  
tan, sin, nor deith, shall haue power to me  
le



lest yow. Reioyce in the Lord that he hath  
compted yow worthie to suffer for his Na-  
mes sake. Pray for me, Brethren, that I  
may feight my battell laughfullie, to  
the end. The Lord Iesus pre-  
serue yow now and euer.

Amen. Of Sanctandrois  
the 17. of Iulij. 1571.

Your Brother to power in Christ Iesus

IOHNE KNOX.

If I might wryte, I wolde exhort yow to re-  
member that by many tribulatiōes we must  
enter in the Kingdome of Heauen.

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